

Meeting #15 – Final Meeting

# Metro Transit Police Work Group

February 25, 2022



# Agenda

1. Prioritize issues and considerations (poll) – Chair Chamblis
2. Finalize report – Work Group Member Discussion (Lesley Kandaras will walk through the Draft 3 document)
3. Discuss approach to March 2, 2022 Committee of the Whole – Work Group Member Discussion
  - If time allows, staff will preview Metro Transit/MTPD’s approach to the action plan, which will also be covered at the 3/2/22 Committee of the Whole

# 1. Prioritize issues and considerations

# Police Work Group's Recommended Vision

1. Provide a quality transit experience for all, using an anti-racist lens, equity lens, and inclusive approach to transit safety, security, and policing
2. Address systemic issues by fostering community relationships and partnerships
3. Demonstrate responsive leadership and accountability for results

# Draft Recommendations

- 1.1:** Provide a safe, consistent, quality experience for all on buses, trains, and facilities
- 2.1:** Communicate and engage with other jurisdictions, including law enforcement agencies, to work together towards solutions with immediacy and regularity
- 2.2:** Continue efforts to pass administrative citations legislation
- 3.1:** Develop effective communication structure between MTPD and Council so Council Members are aware of and can act on issues affecting transit security and policing in a timely manner
- 3.2:** Evaluate policies, practices, and procedures to ensure positive outcomes and reduce negative impacts on communities
- 3.3:** Seek out and address employee transit safety and security needs and concerns in a meaningful and timely manner
- 3.4:** Seek out and address public feedback on transit safety and security in a meaningful and timely manner

# Prioritization Poll

- The purpose is to prioritize issues and considerations.
- Poll link will be provided during the meeting.
- Members will take the poll “live.”
- Participants should use Chrome or Microsoft Edge to complete the poll (Internet Explorer doesn’t always work.)
- The following slides (slides 7-15) include the questions and the response options that will be included in the poll.

# Provide Quality Transit Safety, Security, Policing for All – issues to rank

Issues to rank as priorities:

- Insufficient official presence on the system
- Insufficient youth engagement
- Service unreliability
- Problematic conditions on vehicles and facilities
- Low ridership during the pandemic leads some to feel unsafe

# Provide Quality Transit Safety, Security, Policing for All – considerations to rank

**Recommendation 1.1** Provide a safe, consistent, quality experience for all on buses, trains, and facilities.

Considerations to rank as priorities:

- Ensure quality conditions on transit system
- Prevent and address violations
- Increase official presence with authority and skill
- Improve transit frequency and reliability



# Fostering community relationships and partnerships – issues to rank

Issues to rank as priorities:

- Large jurisdiction stretches resources, requires partnerships
- Systemic problems affect transit safety
- Current law requires sworn officers to issue fare citations

# Fostering community relationships and partnerships – considerations to rank

**Recommendation 2.1:** Communicate and engage with other jurisdictions, including law enforcement agencies, to work together towards solutions with immediacy and regularity.

*No considerations listed yet in the draft report*

# Fostering community relationships and partnerships – considerations to rank

**Recommendation 2.2:** Continue efforts to pass administrative citations legislation.

Considerations to rank as priorities:

- Advocate for law change for administrative citations
- Continue expanding non-sworn presence on system

# Demonstrate responsive leadership and accountability for results – issues to rank

Issues to rank as priorities:

- Insufficient Council Member – MTPD communication
- Lack of regular/routine reports on full outcomes and resource allocation
- Unclear roles and responsibilities relating to transit policing and safety
- Employee concerns about safety at work
- Timely responses to feedback regarding safety on transit
- Officer staffing levels inadequate

# Demonstrate responsive leadership and accountability for results – considerations to rank

**Recommendation 3.1:** Develop effective communication structure between MTPD and Council so Council Members are aware of and can act on issues affecting transit security and policing in a timely manner.

Considerations to rank as priorities:

- Increase depth and frequency of conversations with Council Members
- Communicate more regularly with council members about challenges
- Report detailed data and information to council members and public regularly
- Officer staffing levels are inadequate
- Timely response to feedback regarding safety on transit
- Employee concerns about safety at work

# Demonstrate responsive leadership and accountability for results – considerations to rank

**Recommendation 3.2:** Evaluate policies, practices, and procedures to ensure positive outcomes and reduce negative impacts on communities.

Considerations to rank as priorities:

- Define positive outcomes and assess performance

**Recommendation 3.3:** Seek out and address employee transit safety security needs and concerns in a meaningful and timely manner.

Considerations to rank as priorities:

- Continue to collect employee feedback
- Communications on actions taken and follow up with employees

# Demonstrate responsive leadership and accountability for results – considerations to rank as priorities

**Recommendation 3.4:** Seek out and address public feedback on transit safety and security in a meaningful and timely manner.

Considerations to rank as priorities:

- Respond quickly to constituent concerns
- Follow public engagement best practices

## 2. Finalize Report



# Finalize Report

- Walk through Draft 3 of the report section by section and discuss any final changes
- Confirm that staff may make non-substantive changes (copy editing) and fix errors following today's meeting
- Report will be posted Monday, February 28 (work group deadline for submitting recommendations) with Committee of the Whole materials

# **3. Discuss approach to March 2 Committee of the Whole**

# Discuss approach to March 2 Committee of the Whole

- Proposed 3/2/22 COW agenda:
  - Work Group Chair Chamblis provides an overview of recommendations
  - Metro Transit provides an overview of draft approach to developing the action plan
  - Q & A and open discussion
- What steps should be taken to engage Council Members in discussion?

**If time: preview of Metro Transit/MTPD's  
approach to the action plan**

# Police Review Timeline

**Phase 1:** Community Engagement led by Citizens League (July 2020 – September 2021)

**Phase 2:** Council Member Police Work Group (August 11, 2021 – March 2, 2022)

**Phase 3:** Action Plan Development by Metro Transit/MTPD (March 2022 – June 2022)

Action Plan implementation in progress by Q3 2022 (presuming June 2022 approval)

# Transit Safety Action Plan Overview

- Metro Transit will deliver a draft action plan to the Council in May for COW discussion and will plan to seek Council approval in June 2022
- Plan will include SMART goals and action steps (with timelines) to advance the Council's vision and address their priorities/consideration as established in Police Work Group Recommendations and March 2 COW conversation
- Metro Transit will integrate/align this action plan with other safety and security initiatives underway to ensure the action plan ties together and builds on relevant existing work

# Transit Safety Action Plan Key Steps

Not an exhaustive list, but examples of action plan development steps:

- Inventory of current and planned work
- Identify gaps between current/planned work and vision, and developing action steps to address gaps
- Assess existing peer research; seek more peer information if needed
- Establish approach to measuring performance and tracking action plan progress
- Continue to communicate with stakeholders, likely with a focus on:
  - Council Members
  - Employees
  - Participants in Phase 1 and Phase 2 to validate the draft plan before May COW discussion

# Action Plan Development Steps Council Members Will See

- **March and April 2022:** Organized opportunities for Council Members to interact with police and other frontline employees and to experience conditions on the system
- **Late April/Early May 2022:** Project team will reach out to Phase 1 and Phase 2 stakeholders to “validate” draft action plan. Council Members will be informed of this step.
- **May 2022:** Metro Transit/MTPD will bring the draft plan to the Committee of the Whole for discussion (aiming for May 18 COW)
- **June 2022:** Metro Transit/MTPD will bring the revised action plan to the Council for approval
- **By July 2022:** Action plan implementation in progress following Council approval





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